CLAIMS

What we claim is:

1   1.   A method of monitoring activities performed at a cable television tap, the

2   method comprising the steps of:

3   determining whether technician data is read;

4   storing the technician data in association with an access time and an access

5   date upon determining that the technician data is read; and

6   providing data to a remote location;

7   associating the data with the cable television tap.

1   2.   The method according to claim 1, further comprising: generating a sensor

2   signal.

1   3.   The method according to claim 2, further comprising storing the access time

2   and the access date in response to the sensor signal.

1   4.   The method according to claim 1, further comprising: determining whether a

2   port status has been modified.

1   5.   The method according to claim 4, further comprising storing the modified

2   port status in association with the access time and access date upon determining that

3   the port status has been modified.

1   6.   The method according to claim 1, wherein the data is provided at a

2   predetermined time interval.

1   7.   The method according to claim 1, wherein the data is provided upon request.

1   8.   The method according to claim 1, further comprising: receiving the data at a

2   computer at the remote location.

1   9.   The method according to claim 1, further comprising generating a report base in part

2   on the provided data.

1   10. The method according to claim 1, further comprising reading technician data.

1   11. The method according to claim 1, further comprising providing port status data.

1   12.   A system for monitoring activities performed at a cable television tap, the system

2   comprising the steps of:

3   a controller operable to determine whether technician data is read;

4   a memory, coupled to controller, operable to store the technician data in

5   association with an access time and an access date upon a determination that the

6   technician data is read;

7   a communication medium, coupled to controller, operable to provide data to

8   a remote location; and

9   the controller operable to associate the data with the cable television tap.

1   13.   The system according to claim 12, further comprising: a sensor, coupled to the

2   controller, operable to generate a sensor.

1   14.   The system according to claim 13, further comprising the memory operable to store

2   the access time and the access date.

1   15. The system according to claim 12, further comprising: the controller operable to

2   determine whether a port status has been modified.

1   16. The system according to claim 6, further comprising the memory operable to store the

2   modified port status in association with the access time and access date upon a

3   determination that the port status has been modified.

1   17. The system according to claim 12; wherein the data is provided at a predetermined time

2   interval.

1   18. The system according to claim 12, wherein the data is provided upon request.

19. The system according to claim 12, further comprising: a computer, coupled to the

communication medium, operable to receive the data.

1   20. The system according to claim 12, further comprising the computer operable to

2   generate a report base in part on the provided data.

1   21. The system according to claim 12, further comprising a reader, coupled to the

2   controller, operable to read technician data.

22. The system according to claim 12, further comprising tap circuitry, coupled to the

controller, operable to providing port status data.